

CALFED Water Transfers Policy -- Some Fundamental Assumptions

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1. **CALFED must address water transfers.** In the Framework Agreement of June 1994 that established CALFED, an explicit commitment was made to address effective planning and operation of water export systems. Policy makers have identified CALFED as having a central role in the refinement of water transfers policy. The organizational structure of CALFED facilitates cooperation and coordination among the CALFED agencies.
2. **A CALFED water transfers policy must be consistent with the Program's adopted goals.** Relevant goals include the following:
 - reduce the mismatch between Bay-Delta water supplies and current and projected beneficial uses dependent on the Bay-Delta system;
 - improve and increase aquatic and terrestrial habitats and improve ecological functions in the Bay-Delta to support sustainable populations of diverse and valuable plant and animal species; and
 - provide good water quality for all beneficial uses.
3. **A CALFED water transfers policy must be consistent with the Program's adopted solution principles.** These state that a Bay-Delta solution must: reduce conflicts in the system, be equitable, be affordable, be durable, be implementable, and have no significant redirected impacts.
4. **A CALFED water transfers policy should be consistent with roles and responsibilities of CALFED agencies with respect to transfers as these roles and responsibilities may evolve over time.** Many of the CALFED agencies have interests or responsibilities related to water transfers. A CALFED water transfers element should be consistent with these individual roles and responsibilities, and not at odds with the activities of any CALFED agency.
5. **A CALFED water transfers policy should be responsive to stakeholder issues and concerns.** A transfers policy should be developed in the same open, collaborative manner as other aspects of the Program, with ample opportunity for stakeholders to raise issues and concerns.

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